



Primary 1 and 2 Issue 1/2022



Together We keep Singapore Strong *Total Defence *

15 February 1942: The Fall of Singapore

by Dr. William Wan

Do you know why Total Defence Day is on the 15th of February every year? Back then, on 15th February 1942, the Japanese took over Singapore during World War II.

At that time, Singapore was controlled by the British. However, the British soldiers could not protect Singapore as they were fighting the German soldiers in Europe. Thus, the Japanese took over Singapore from 15th February 1942 to 12th September 1945. During the time, soldiers in Singapore were locked up in jail and many people suffered and died.

Since 1965, Singapore is no longer controlled by any country. To make Singapore a stronger country, we must protect and defend ourselves.



Photo of Former Ford Factory from National Archives of Singapore

Did you know this is the place where British forces surrendered to the Imperial Japanese Army on 15 February 1942?



Photo of The Civilian War Memorial from National Archives of Singapore

Every year on 15 February, a memorial service is held here, to remember the victims of the war. Our Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) and Singapore Police Force (SPF) play an important role in protecting us. So, remember to say thank you and show kindness to your father, brother, uncle or any adult male relatives who have served or are serving National Service. You can show your appreciation for them in the activity on page 5.

Dr. William Wan, 74, is the General Secretary of the Singapore Kindness Movement.



What is National Service?

Male Singaporeans and Permanent Residents are required to serve full-time National Service (NS) for two years when they turn 18 years old. After two years of training, whether they are schooling or working, they continue to train and stay fit to defend Singapore. This is part of Military Defence!

NS was introduced in 1967, by then-Defence Minister Dr. Goh Keng Swee shortly after Singapore gained independence. This year, we celebrate 55 years of NS in Singapore!





Images from National Archives of Singapore

Together, the three uniformed services of the Singapore Armed Forces (SAF), Singapore Civil Defence Force (SCDF) and Singapore Police Force (SPF) work together to defend and protect Singapore.



NS helps to ensure that there are people to defend and protect Singapore to keep our nation safe and strong!

Our servicemen from the SAF, SCDF and SPF help to defend us from enemies, provide assistance during emergencies and protect us against crimes to keep Singapore safe and strong.

You can play your part by learning about our history and showing our SAF, SCDF and SPF national servicemen your support! Together as one united people, we can keep Singapore strong!



Activity Time!

Show your love for Singapore and design your own personalised shield to play a part for Total Defence!

When you give the card to your father, brother, uncle or any adult male relatives, ask them to share some stories of their NS experience! Here are some questions you can start with:

- What did you do in NS?
- How has NS made you better and stronger as a person?
- What do you think I can do to play my part for Singapore too?

End by sharing why you love Singapore, and how you can play your part for Total Defence to defend our nation!



Thank them for protecting us!

Give your father, brother, uncle or any adult male relatives a thank you card for defending our nation through National Service (NS)!





Excited to show your Singapore spirit? Share a photo of your appreciation card to spread your support to all national servicemen!

Together with your parents/guardian, submit your photo at go.gov.sg/nsthankyou. You may see it featured at the future NS Gallery in NS Square or on the We Are Total Defence social media platforms!

Together We Keep Singapore Strong

Dear ______

From:

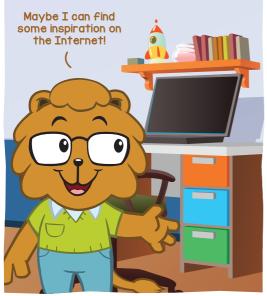
Write a message here to thank him for serving NS, and in defending and protecting us!



STAYSAFE NUME

Let's play our part for Digital Defence!









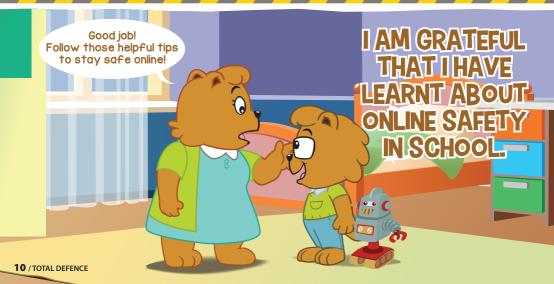














Do you practise good online habits when using your devices? Complete this bingo challenge and encourage your family and friends to do the same!

I keep my devices in a safe place.	I seek permission from a trusted adult before using any device and going online.	I do not click on unfamiliar links.
l never give out my personal information online.	I use strong passwords to protect my accounts and devices.	I will tell a trusted adult if I receive hurtful messages online.
l do not open emails from strangers.	I do not share my passwords with anyone, except trusted adults.	l am kind online and offline.



TOTAL DEFENCE IN ACTION

2021 was a difficult year, but many people still came together to help one another. Singaporeans stayed united and displayed acts of kindness.



Image source: Facebook/ Bharath Bala

A few months ago, three schoolboys and a lady were seen helping an elderly woman push her trolley across the zebra crossing and onto the pavement. One boy showed the lady how to push the trolley onto the pavement, while another made sure nothing was in the way. The boy in the middle held on to his friends' arms, making sure that they were safe. Together, they were able to push the trolley before the traffic light for cars turned green.

Sheeram Subramanyam, a Primary 5 student, showed compassion by helping others in need. While travelling to his tuition centre, he saw an elderly man lying on the ground and losing consciousness. When he saw that, he ran to the nearby supermarket and police station to ask for help. Two of the men he asked, took turns to perform CPR, until the SCDF responders came and brought the elderly man to the hospital.



Image source: Facebook/St Andrew's Alumni



Image source: Facebook/ Jmaleni Saravanan

7-year-old Shakthi started a project to help those facing challenges from the pandemic. With her pocket money savings, she turned a corner of her HDB block at Bukit Batok into a free grocery station. Her grocery station, called the 'Care & Share Corner', provided food for anyone who needed them. She had received several thank you cards from strangers for her kind act.

The smallest acts of kindness from each of us can have a big impact in our community. Let's all help one another. Together, we can keep Singapore strong!





Write to singa and the kindness cubbies

and get a personal reply!

How can we play our part for Total Defence? Write or draw to Singa and the Kindness Cubbies to share with them what you can do.

Post it by snail mail to:

Singa and the Kindness Cubbies Singapore Kindness Movement 61 Stamford Road #01-08 Stamford Court Singapore 178892

You may also email to:

kindsville@kindness.sg

Singa would like to know your home address, school and class so that he can write back to you! You may write them at the back of your letter or in the email. Thank you! (Please ask your parents/guardians for permission before sending the letter or email.)



Turn to pages 15-16 to read the featured letters!







FEATURED LETTERS FROM ISSUE 4/2021

WHAT IS YOUR FAVOURITE MEMORY OF SOMEONE SHOWING KINDNESS AND CARE TO YOU IN SCHOOL?

Dear Singa and the Kindness Cubbies,

During my first day of school when I was in Primary 1, I was hungry during recess. I could not find the canteen and I did not know what to eat. My buddy came and accompanied me to the canteen. I thanked him and we bought our food. We sat and ate our food together. We chatted nineteen to the dozen when we were done eating. My buddy was very kind. This was my favourite memory of someone showing kindness and care to me.

Jason Pan Nan Chiau Primary School, Class 2 Respect (2021)

Dear Singa,

My name is Averie and I am 8 years old. My favourite memory of someone showing kindness and care to me was when my best friend lent me a colour pencil when I forgot to bring mine. I was delighted when she shared her colour pencil with me. I am grateful and happy to have friends who show kindness!

Averie Tan Springdale Primary School, Class P2-Alertness (2021)





Dear Singa and the Kindness Cubbies,

My favourite memory of someone showing kindness is seeing the teachers and prefects greeting students every morning! It makes me feel happy!

Siri Queenstown Primary School, Class 1 Creativity (2021)



Dear Singa,

My name is Abbas and I am 7 years old. I would like to share my special memory of kindness with you. One day, we were having art lesson and our teacher gave us a spare paper. My friend was very kind and created a paper aeroplane for me. That made my day!

Abbas

Tanjong Katong Primary School, Class 1 Empathy (2021)







Together We Keep Singapore Strong





















